

REMARKS

This amendment is being filed to present additional claims for examination. In particular, new claims 13-27 are presented, which are similar to the previously allowed claims, 1-12, but are admittedly of broader scope. Independent claims 13 and 18 are similar to claims 1 and 6, respectively, except for deletion of the requirements that the substrate is plastic and the channel is rectangular. Admittedly, Applicant's previous patent, US Patent No. 6,381,025, discloses the system of claim 13 and method of claim 18, however, this patent is not applicable in a rejection in view of the terminal disclaimer that has been filed in the subject application.

The new dependent claims are for the most part, the same as the corresponding allowed dependent claims. However, there are some differences. Claim 19 is similar to claim 7 except that no particular order or sequence is recited for introducing the two species into the channel. Claims 21-23 recite previously non-recited applications of the method. These include receptor-ligand binding analysis and a label-free analysis of a hybridization reaction. Use of the invention for these applications is discussed in the specification on page 12.

The Supplemental IDS is being filed to make of record, a paper published by the Applicants in July 2000 that discusses the invention disclosed in the '025 patent. Since the priority date of the subject application, January 25, 2001, is less than one year after the date of the publication, the publication is not applicable as prior art in the subject application.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that the new claims are also patentable and allowable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, allowance of the application with the additional claims is respectfully requested.

Respectively submitted,

By: 

William A. Blake
Reg. No. 30,548

JONES, TULLAR & COOPER, P.C.
P.O. Box 2266 Eads Station
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 415-1500
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